


Rachel
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Georgetown, District of Columbia

19 November 1959

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Editor, Washington Post - Sir:

Benzamin Ginsberg in his letter today which you have entitled "An American Liver Augury" does certainly make Allan Dulles look silly in his having equated the production of more automobiles than the "Godless Atheists" with evidence of our superiority in the spiritual realm, but I don't think he makes a very convincing case when he tries to dissassociate our military power from our overall economic superiority. Both being forms of materialistic power, a relation must doubtless exist between them, tho qualitatively perhaps more critically than quantitatively.

Still, things have come to a ridiculous pass when despite all our religiosity and egghead claims to leadership in the moral and spiritual spheres, that the words which really rouse interest in these spheres should be uttered by the man who is Chief Planner in our Political Underworld, a sort of Political Al Capone! Is not this true? Fact is even the words of Bishop Dunn to which you gave front page prominence last Sunday, have not raised so much as a ripple of attention or comment, so bland and innocuous and unstimulating were his words. And while the dedicated Marxist crusaders see in a Reuther a veritable threat to their ideological victories and mark him as a potent challenger, no religious figure in America has bothered the Suslovs in the least. The very fact that Mr. Ginsberg wrote his so-excellent letter in response to Dulles's remarks shows that however silly they seem to be they DO constitute a bit of "refreshing soul-searching" as Chalmers Roberts said they did.

In my opinion, however, there IS a spiritual aspect of our efforts to produce enough automobiles so that almost anyone who really wants to own one can with effort and saving, actually achieve that desire. That this achievement runs counter to the communist objectives, Khrushchev clearly stated when he declared his hope would be to establish car pools where users could rent cars but never own them. Historically even the United States recognized the tie between the ability to maintain and establish a veritable self-government here depended upon the wisdom which comes to mankind thru discharging the responsibilities which come from being a property owner. Initially, only such persons were given the right to vote. And however "liberal" any employer claims to be he never discounts or considers a liability to a prospective employee the fact that he owns his own home and car, rather than being a renter. Why is this so? I contend that only that Spirituality Ginsberg recommends as possessed by one who "lives ^{by} a devotion to higher and more spiritual truths" which is supported by roots going deeper into the powers hidden in the material realm, is going to have the least effect on the Spirituality of mankind and that of all life on this planet. The sum total of the efforts of all the "Holy Men" of

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India who renounce all materialism in order to live lives "devoted to higher and more spiritual truths", has, after millennia of years resulted in what? Not only a country with the most backward of economies, but one where the moral and Spiritual climate is worse than anywhere else on this sphere, as anyone can tell you who has got at all close to life there outside the wealthy and official strata there. It may seem a small thing to you, but to me it is an important clew to the brutality and cruelty which so-far have been the hallmark of every materialistic communal regime, that they are apparently quite as insensitive and unaware to the needs of inanimate objects as they ultimately become to those of non-conforming human beings. To me the ultimate symbol of Marxist error lies in the pitiful condition in which one invariably finds a writing pen commonly used, whether in a postoffice or one of our more Ritzzy banks. He who cherishes and treats his personal possessions with loving care has, in my observation, nourished the deep roots of his Spiritual Life which can lift the branches thereof to higher realms of Spirituality if he will, he who dismisses that responsibility as impertinent to the spiritual realm ends up as Spiritually Impotent despite his earnest effort to lift up his life Spiritually. Sure, many car owners will fail to make the most of this opportunity, but that no more negates the value thereof than does the neglect of books make it absurd to make a causal tie between Libraries and the possibility of their use as tools in Spiritual development, does it?

I call your attention to the invariable custom of the military, bent on breaking and destroying the individual wills, critical faculties and moral scruples of the inductee so that he can become a sub-human cog in a military machine. The first thing done is to rob him of all the personal possessions he has and force him to use those which are community property, is it not? And it works too! If every man in our military services were allowed to buy and care for and use his own personal automobile, there would in almost nothing flat be a loss of military, totalitarian control, and the GIs would revert to the state of uncontrollability by their officers, would they not? Do you think Mr. K is unaware of this tie-up between individual possession of things and the potentials of all sorts of freedoms? Conversely, to the degree that our own industry has become centralized and no worker uses any of his own tools except his bodily faculties, men degenerate into wage slaves, despite the contrary desires of the employer. To own his own car, to tinker with it and have it respond to HIS wishes, not those of his boss, is just about the only way Spiritual and political freedom can be maintained in a highly industrialized country, is it not? How would YOU do it? With debating societies?

While we are on this subject, I beg you to run a series of articles by European Cultural experts, to have them cite chapter and verse to back up their continual, but in my observation fraudulent claims, of a life which is less "completely ruled by material values" than ours - to quote from the book by Peter Townsend the social climber, described today on page A 10 of the Post. Invariably those whose material desires are largely fulfilled offer evidence from the lives of the "ordinary simple" people whom they deny opportunities of every sort. That form of Spiritualism is even a worse fraud than that of the professional "Holy Men" who at least practice what folly they preach. We need to dispose of the rubbish now encumbering the entrance to the Spiritual Realm so that we get really enter. Will you take the initiative in raking up?

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GEORGETOWN, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Public Liaison Officer
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25 D.C.

11 EAST



TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE 23 November 1959
TO: Legislative Counsel		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
<p>Here is another copy of a letter by Rachael Welch to the Editor of the WASHINGTON POST, with copies to "Clergy, Peacemakers, 'Godless Atheists,' and CIA."</p>		
<p>Stanley J. Grogan, Asst. to the DCI</p>		
ROOM NO. 11	BUILDING East	EXTENSION
FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55		REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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